

Serial No.; 10/692,947  
Atty. Docket No.: D5380

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application as amended is requested. Claims 1-11 remain in the application. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b). An informality objection was raised against Claim 5. Claims 2-5 were indicated as directed to allowable subject matter, but objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. Claims 6-11 were indicated to be allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the prior art. Claim 5 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 as anticipated by Helmus, US-P 6,007,102. Helmus, among other details, taught a wheel skirt which in and out with respect to a wheel well to allow the wheel to be turned. Because the vehicle could, in theory, be wider than longer, the Examiner pointed out that such motion would be "parallel to the direction of elongation" of the vehicle on which it was installed, anticipating a feature of the structural aspects of the claim. The claim has been reworded to overcome this aspect of Helmus and now recites

bearing means depending from the skirt panel and set in the track to support  
sliding motion of the panel skirt back and forth parallel to the side of the  
motor vehicle chassis between the front and rear wheels and to orient the  
aerodynamic outside surface of the panel skirt away from the motor vehicle  
chassis.

The position of the skirt panel is now described in relation to a position and motion relative to both the front and rear wheels of a vehicle. Helmus provides no such teaching.

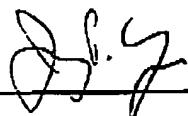
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CONCLUSION

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is not considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Applicant believes the Claims as amended are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable action by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this **AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111** is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on or before 5/10/05 to (703) 872-9306.

Date: 5/10/05



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